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1996

AGENDA / MINUTES

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE
AGAINST RACISM AND
DISCRIMINATION

JAN 22, 1996



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JAN 18 1996

NOTICE OF MEETING

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE AGAINST RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION

Monday, 1996 January 22

5:00 o'clock p.m.

Room 219, City Hall

Stella Glover,
Secretary

AGENDA:

1. Minutes of Meeting - 1995 November 27
2. Matters Arising
3. Co-Chairperson's Report
4. **Sub-Committee Reports:**
 - (a) Ad Hoc Awards Evening Committee
 - (b) Finance Committee
 - (c) Media Sub-Committee
 - (d) Mediation Sub-Committee
 - (e) Membership Sub-Committee
 - (f) Public Awareness Sub-Committee
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

Monday, 1995 November 27
4:30 o'clock p.m.
Room 219, City Hall

The Mayor's Committee Against Racism & Discrimination met.

There were present:

Marlene Thomas Osbourne, Chairperson
Geoff Small
Deborah Brown
Mary Cahill
Sherry Wang
Marc Haas
Fred Loft

Regrets:

Gary Ostofi
Jessica Stone
Harpreet Singh Gill

Also present:

Mervyn Jobity, Chairperson, MACARD
Joseph Oliver, Vice-Chairperson, MACARD
Stella Glover, Secretary

1. Minutes of Meeting

Minutes of meeting dated 1995 October 25 were adopted as presented.

2. Matters Arising

- (a) Fred Loft confirmed that he had drafted the two letters which had been requested at the previous meeting with regard to the Provincial cutbacks.

3. Creating a Racism-Free Workplace Video

The Committee watched a video entitled, "Creating a Racism-Free Workplace," and which had been provided by Fred Loft.

4. Co-Chairpersons Report

(a) Bill 8

Marlene Thomas Osbourne, Co-Chairperson, advised of a presentation which she had made on behalf of the Committee to Queen's Park with regard to the repeal of Bill 8 (Employment Equity). Marlene stated that Denise Brooks had co-presented the report and copies of the presentation were circulated to members of the Committee.

(b) Initiative for Change Seminar

Marlene advised of a seminar she had attended on behalf of the Committee entitled, "Initiatives for Change". This seminar had been presented by Moral Re-armament, and had taken place in Toronto on Saturday, 1995 November 18.

The Committee approved expenditure up to \$150. for registration and expenses incurred by Marlene Thomas Osbourne in attending the Initiatives for Change seminar in Toronto on November 18, 1995.

(c) McMaster University

The Co-Chairperson also advised the Committee of a presentation she had made on behalf of the Committee at McMaster University on November 9, 1995.

5. Advisory Council Chairpersons Report

Mervyn Jobity informed the Committee of a meeting of the Advisory Council held on November 10, 1995, which had been attended by District Fire Chief, Gil Desjarlais, and Jane Parker of the Human Resources Department, as part of the Hamilton Fire Department Recruitment Outreach Program.

Mr. Jobity also advised of two recommendations which had been made by the Advisory Council as follows:

(a) Racists & Sexist Graffiti in Schools

The Committee was in receipt of a report dated 1995 November 27 from the Mayor's Advisory Council Against Racism & Discrimination respecting the above noted matter.

The Committee was advised that Irene Sushko, the Committee Resource person with the Hamilton Board of Education, was unable to attend the meeting that evening due to an injury. However, Ms. Sushko had informed the Secretary by telephone that the complaints in questions had been investigated and letters sent to the Committee.

After consideration, the Committee agreed that future complaints with regard to schools within the Hamilton Board of Education be referred to Irene Sushko, Committee Resource person with the Hamilton Board of Education for investigation.

(b) Taxi Industry

The Committee was in receipt of a report dated 1995 November 27 from the Mayor's Advisory Council Against Racism & Discrimination respecting the above noted matter. Marlene Thomas Osbourne advised that she was now a member of the Taxi Advisory Committee and suggested that the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on Racism & Discrimination in Hamilton's Taxi Industry be forwarded to the Taxi Advisory Committee to be dealt with by the Taxi Industry.

Joseph Oliver requested that an addendum be added to the recommendations to include complaints with regard to discrimination against members of the gay and lesbian community.

Marlene Thomas Osbourne agreed to this amendment, and the Committee approved the following:

That the Taxi Advisory Committee be requested to implement the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on racism and discrimination in Hamilton's Taxi Industry.

Mark Haas expressed concern that taxi companies outside Hamilton, but within the Region, should also be included. However, it was noted that only Hamilton based companies were under the jurisdiction of the Taxi Advisory Sub-Committee.

6. Sub-Committee Reports

(a) Ad Hoc Awards Evening Committee

Marlene Thomas Osbourne reported on the Awards Evening and stated that approximately 200 tickets had been sold to date. Joseph Oliver reported that a

(b) Carribana Festival

Deborah Brown suggested that the Mayor's Committee Against Racism & Discrimination enter a float in the Carribana Festival. The Committee agreed that this matter be looked into and reported back to the Committee in January.

(c) 1996 Events

- (i) Marlene Thomas Osbourne suggested that words of inspiration be incorporated at the beginning of each meeting of the Mayor's Committee Against Racism & Discrimination. Marlene volunteered to speak at the January meeting.
- (ii) Marlene Thomas Osbourne said it was hoped to have a conflict resolution conference in the Spring of 1996, planning to begin in January. In-house workshops were also to be arranged.
- (iii) A calendar was to be prepared in January listing events for the year, including the Grey Cup.
- (iv) The meeting dates for 1996 Mayor's Committee Against Racism & Discrimination will continue to be held on the 4th Monday of the month, however, the time will be changed from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. and a light supper is to be served.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting then adjourned.

Taken as read and approved.

**Marlene Thomas Osbourne,
Co-Chairperson
Mayor's Committee Against
Racism & Discrimination**

**Stella Glover,
Secretary
Mayor's Committee Against
Racism & Discrimination**

SG:jp

banner was being made and would be displayed in the hotel prior to and during the Awards Evening. All nominees had been informed and advised that they were eligible to receive complimentary tickets, as well as former members of the Committee and Advisory Council.

(b) Finance Committee

Regrets were received from Gary Ostofi, the Finance Sub-Committee Chairperson. The Committee agreed to ratify the telephone poll which had been undertaken in order to meet the budget submission deadline as follows:

That the Mayor's Committee Against Racism & Discrimination request the amount of \$12,180. for the 1996 Budget.

(c) Media Sub-Committee

Mark Haas advised that although he had nothing to report for the November meeting, he would make a thirty minute presentation at the January meeting.

(d) Mediation Sub-Committee

At this time, the Committee retired in camera, to receive a confidential report from Geoff Small, Chairperson of the Media Sub-Committee.

The Committee then resumed in open session.

(e) Membership Sub-Committee

Regrets were received from Jessica Stone, the Chairperson of the Membership Sub-Committee. However, Jessica had sent a verbal report that the Membership Sub-Committee had met on November 21 to consider the vacancy created by the resignation of Sandra Wilson from the Advisory Council.

Two candidates had been asked to provide additional information and would be interviewed on January 17.

(f) Public Awareness Sub-Committee

Fred Loft, Chairperson of the Public Awareness Sub-Committee reported that the Sub-Committee would be meeting the following evening and that a report would be forthcoming for the next meeting.

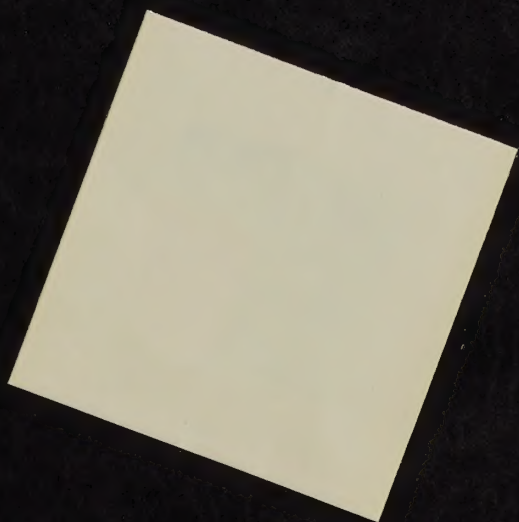
The Co-Chairperson thanked Fred Loft for providing the video "Creating a Racism-Free Workplace" and recommended that the Advisory Council also be given the opportunity to view it.

7. Other Business

(a) Caribbean Christmas Brunch

Geoff Small informed the Committee of a Caribbean Christmas Brunch which was to be held on Sunday, 1995 December 10 at 11:30 a.m. at the Black Youth Achievement Centre, at 205 Queensdale Avenue East. Tickets will be \$10 per person.

The Committee agreed that the Mayor's Committee Against Racism & Discrimination purchase 10 tickets for the Caribbean Christmas Brunch.



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